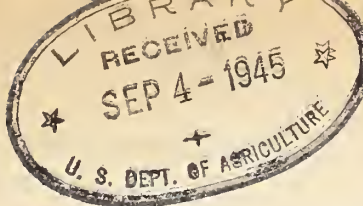


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LATE FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS

SWITZERLAND: The condition of crops on August 1 was reported as follows: Natural meadows 73, artificial meadows 79, winter wheat 79, summer wheat 79, spelt 80, winter rye 74, maslin 77, winter barley 75, summer barley 75, oats 79, potatoes 75, vegetables 74, fodder beets 76, apples 49, pears 62, plums 62, and nuts 52. (100 equals excellent, 90 very good, 75 good, 60 fairly good, and 50 mediocre.)

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DENMARK: Cultivation of fiber flax in 1942 was reported to be increased from 15,000 to 20,000 acres.

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G R A I N S

CANADA'S GRAIN CARRY-OVER
REDUCED FROM LAST YEAR . . .

The total carry-over of Canadian wheat and coarse grains on July 31, 1942, was reduced from a year ago, according to information received from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The wheat carry-over, however, was second only to last year's record volume. The stocks of old-crop wheat in Canada are reported at 404,232,003 bushels, which together with 19,816,426 bushels in store or in transit in the United States, total 424,048,429 bushels. This total is 56,080,882 bushels lower than the record amount of 480,129,311 bushels on hand in all positions on July 31, 1941.

CANADIAN GRAIN: Carry-over stocks in Canada and the United States
July 31, 1942, with comparisons

Grain	1940	1941 a/	1942
	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
Wheat	300,473,465	480,129,311	424,048,429
Oats b/	49,864,217	44,161,090	30,379,970
Barley	12,653,875	10,908,001	10,846,754
Rye	3,351,661	4,919,122	3,386,361

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

a/ Revised. b/ Converted to bushels of 32 pounds.

The estimated distribution of the wheat stocks shows 10,446,000 bushels on farms, compared with 13,954,000 bushels carried over on farms a year ago. Farm stocks of wheat a year from now, however, promise to show a very marked increase as a result of the large prospective crop and limited marketing delivery quota. The carry-over in country and private terminal elevators was placed at 133 million, at Fort William and Port Arthur elevators at about 128 million, and in eastern elevators at 65 million bushels. Approximately 19 million bushels are in store at Canadian west coast elevators at Vancouver, Victoria, and vicinity.

GRAIN: Position of Canadian stocks as of July 31, 1942,
with comparisons

Grain	1941 a/		1942	
	Canada	United States	Canada	United States
	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
Wheat	448,337,801	31,791,510	404,232,003	19,816,426
Rye	1,859,871	3,059,251	2,057,361	1,329,000
Barley	10,425,898	482,103	10,846,754	-
Oats b/	43,830,371	330,719	30,379,970	-

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

a/ Revised. b/ Converted to bushels of 32 pounds.

CANADA'S GRAIN HARVEST CHECKED BY RAIN . . .

Cutting of Canada's large grain crops has been further delayed by recent heavy rains, according to information received from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In Manitoba, where most grains are ready for cutting, heavy rains stopped field work and caused further lodging. Rains were also reported heavy in parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta, but harvesting operations there are less advanced, and apart from the additional lodging, the wet weather is reported to have had no serious consequences.

Warmer weather favored ripening of grain crops during the past week, states a telegram dated August 18, and crop prospects on the whole continue very promising in western Canada. Early fields of coarse grains are being cut in all three Provinces. The wheat harvest is expected to be in full swing in Manitoba as soon as weather conditions permit, but in Saskatchewan the wheat crop is not expected to be ready until the end of August or early September. Reports from Alberta indicate that general harvesting will take place in the first week of September, the exception being in the Peace River district, where cutting is already under way with excellent yields recorded. Reports from all Provinces indicate that grains are filling well and moisture supplies are ample.

RICE PRODUCTION IN NICARAGUA SUFFICIENT . . .

Rice production and trade for Nicaragua have shown very little trend during the past 9 years, according to information received by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The country is approximately self-sufficient in rice, with the per capita utilization averaging over 50 pounds per year.

NICARAGUA: Rice production, trade, and apparent domestic utilization, average 1933-1935, annual 1936-1941

Year	Production		Imports	Exports	Domestic utilization
	Rough	Cleaned			
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Average	<u>bushels</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
1933-1935 .	2,429	65,600	733	457	65,876
1936	2,103	56,796	346	718	56,424
1937	1,183	31,950	1,425	a/	33,375
1938	2,051	55,375	98	30	55,445
1939	1,634	44,119	4	a/	44,123
1940	2,275	61,417	716	a/	62,133
1941	1,527	41,232	b/ 22	b/ 850	40,404

Compiled from sources not official.

a/ No exports shown. b/ Preliminary.

* * * * *

V E G E T A B L E O I L S A N D O I L S E E D SCANADIAN FLAXSEED CROPMAY BE REDUCED . . .

Rust infection and damage from grasshoppers threaten to reduce the Canadian flaxseed yield. Weather and moisture conditions have for most areas been good thus far this season. The first official estimate for the current crop will not be released until September 10. Trade sources, however, place production at 17,500,000 bushels, but some observers feel that this may be too high in view of the lateness of the crop in some sections and of possible lower yields.

Growers in the Prairie Provinces increased their acreage from 982,000 acres in 1941 to 1,466,000 in 1942. The Province of Saskatchewan is the largest producer of flaxseed in western Canada and in 1941 accounted for 57 percent of the Prairie crop. The greatest expansion in 1942 also took place in this Province, amounting to 375,000 acres of the total increase of 484,000. Almost 80 percent of the flaxseed produced in western Canada in 1941 was marketed during the 1941-42 crop year. The percentage probably would have been larger but for the fact that a substantial amount was retained for seeding the 1942 acreage.

CANADA: Disposal of flaxseed crop in Prairie Provinces,
1937-1941

Year	Area sown	Yield per acre	Total pro- duction	Carry- over on farms a/	Total on farms	Farmers' market- ings b/	Percent- age of supply marketed
	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	Percent
1937 ...	233	3.0	694	10	704	499	70.9
1938 ...	202	5.9	1,185	1	1,186	856	72.2
1939 ...	288	6.8	1,950	5	1,955	1,724	88.2
1940 ...	364	7.9	2,875	27	2,902	2,588	89.2
1941 ...	940	6.6	6,240	14	6,254	4,874	77.9

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

a/ Stocks at the end of July. b/ August 1 to July 31.

If present prospects hold, the harvest this year will exceed by a considerable margin the crushing facilities in Canada, but this will not in any way restrict the movement of flaxseed from farms. It is believed that the demand far exceeds the quantity available and that there will be no difficulty in disposing of any surplus from the new crop. The maximum crushing capacity last year was 4,000,000 bushels, but this has been or will be increased to about 5,000,000 bushels this year. Aside from the oil which the 1942 flaxseed crop will yield, the meal will be an important element in cattle feeding, especially dairy cattle. With heavy

demands on Canada for the production of cheese, butter, and other dairy products, the prospect of a large flaxseed outturn this year is encouraging.

Total stocks of flaxseed in Canada on July 31 amounted to 1,027,040 bushels, compared with 620,313 bushels at the same time in 1941. The Wheat Board took over all stocks of flaxseed on March 31, 1942, and now has complete control of the disposal of this crop.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA RESTRICTS EXPORTS AND USE OF PEANUT OIL . . .

A short supply of peanuts in French West Africa has brought about legislative measures restricting exports of peanuts and the domestic use of peanut oil. The latest revised estimate for 1941 places peanut production at 220,000 short tons. Exports are permitted only by approved merchants established in the colony who actually exported the product during 1938 and 1939. Other provisions are: apportionment on the basis of stocks at the port of embarkation, space allotted by the maritime authorities, and a specific export license approved by the Government Commissioner.

In order to conserve peanut oil for edible purposes and as a substitute for Diesel oil, its use in the manufacture of soap is prohibited. All mills producing peanut oil in Senegal and in the circumscription of Dakar have been placed under Government control. They are required to submit reports showing quantities of peanuts crushed each month, where they were obtained, the amount of oil produced, and the quantity of oil cake resulting from the process. Mills not showing satisfactory returns may be asked to suspend operation. The sale of oil cake has been forbidden except upon surrender of prior purchase authorizations. Large quantities of oil cake are now used as a substitute for fuel.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA: Peanut production, consumption, and exports, 1934-1940

Year	Production	Consumption	Exports
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
1934	618,442	98,368	520,074
1935	461,519	73,408	388,111
1936	590,626	85,197	505,429
1937	781,308	106,850	674,458
1938	618,733	105,974	512,759
1939	737,327	121,378	615,949
1940	707,386	142,782	564,604

Compiled from consular sources.

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C O T T O N - O T H E R F I B E R S

BRAZIL'S COTTON EXPORTS REMAIN LOW . . .

Exports of cotton from Brazil amounted to only 61,000 bales (of 478 pounds) in July, bringing the total for the year ended July 31, 1942, to 889,000 bales compared with 1,333,000 for 1940-41. The sharp decline that began in December, 1941 is due to loss of markets in the Orient and a shortage of shipping facilities to other countries. No cotton shipments to Canada or the United States were reported for May, June, and July. The United Kingdom accounted for 23,000, Spain for 27,000, and Sweden for 8,000 bales of the July total. Most of the sales made to Canadian importers for later delivery have been canceled.

The upward trend in prices, that followed the June 19 announcement of an increase in the Government's loan rate, reached a peak of 67.5 milreis per arroba (11.06 cents per pound) for Sao Paulo type 5 cotton about the middle of July and has since declined steadily to 62 milreis (10.16 cents) on August 18. Market prices are still above the new loan rate of 60 milreis (9.82 cents), and little, if any, cotton is believed to have been placed under loan thus far. A revised schedule of premiums and discounts for grade differentials will be announced later. Deductions for interest (7 percent), brokerage fees, warehouse charges, insurance, sales tax, and the cost of preparing documents amount to a total of about 4.5 milreis (0.74 cent). The relatively high price level of July and August is attributed largely to the shortage of good quality cotton from the 1941-42 crop, increased demand by domestic mills, early optimism concerning exports to Spain, the United Kingdom, and Sweden, and the possibility of sales of cotton to France and Switzerland for storage in Brazil.

Picking in Southern Brazil was virtually completed early in July. Pink bollworms are reported to have destroyed about 20 percent of the 1941-42 crop in Sao Paulo, in addition to that destroyed by excessive rains during the picking season. Only 42 percent of the 690,000 bales classified by the Sao Paulo Merchants Exchange between March 1 and May 31, 1942, was of type 5 or better compared with 71 percent of 1,019,000 bales last year. Freezing weather on June 19 is believed to have reduced the menace of bollworms for next year but caused an estimated 20 percent damage to this year's coffee crop. This factor, together with the less favorable outlook for exports of coffee than for cotton and the Government's program to support cotton prices, is expected to cause many coffee growers to plant cotton next year. Private sources predict a record cotton acreage in southern Brazil for 1942-43 unless legal restrictions are instituted before the planting period begins in September.

In an effort to avoid placing Brazil's cotton-textile industry at a disadvantage for post-war competition, a decree was issued by the National Economic Defense Commission on June 4, 1942, prohibiting the importation of used or obsolete machinery for use in cotton mills. A

complete description of the machinery must accompany an application for an import permit for any machinery ordered after March 21, 1942.

The 1942 cotton crop in Northern Brazil (to be picked during August-January) was recently estimated officially at 390,400 bales (of 478 pounds) and is the smallest crop since 1932. Trade sources estimate this crop as low as 291,000 bales compared with the final official estimates of 487,900 for 1941 and 649,900 for 1940. A severe and extended drought is primarily responsible for the sharp reduction.

MEXICO EXPECTS BUMPER COTTON CROP:
CONSUMPTION AT RECORD LEVEL . . .

A record 1942 cotton crop of at least 435,000 bales (of 478 pounds) is forecast for Mexico, compared with 371,000 in 1941 and a previous record of 397,000 in 1936. Water for irrigation has been sufficient to date, and insect damage was relatively light, but it was pointed out that excessive late rains and increased insect attacks often cause heavy losses late in the season. Weather conditions were generally favorable to the end of July in most of the cotton areas, and the quality of the fiber is expected to be better than normal.

A cool, windy spring delayed plant growth in the Mexicali district and necessitated replanting of about 30 percent of the area. The current crop near Matamoros in northeastern Mexico has also suffered several setbacks this season. Drought in March and early April necessitated considerable replanting, and heavy rains in June and July were followed by increased boll-weevil and pink boll-worm attacks. On the other hand, favorable growing conditions, with limited infestation, have prevailed in the Laguna area where the 247,000 acres planted to cotton this year were nearly double the 1941 area of 141,000 acres. Expansion has been rapid in the comparatively new Delicias district of central Chihuahua and production may reach 36,000 bales, or 9,000 above last year's crop. In the Juarez Valley the area under cultivation is about 25 percent higher than in 1941, although flood damage to about 10 percent of the 42,000 acres planted will prevent a proportionate increase in production.

Cotton-mill consumption in Mexico increased sharply from around 250,000 running bales in 1940-41 to about 330,000 in 1941-42, and a level of about 400,000 is predicted by trade sources for the current year. Monthly consumption averaged about 27,000 bales in 1941-42, reaching a record of 35,000 in March with many mills now operating two shifts per day. This high rate of mill consumption is stimulated both by limited access to foreign sources for goods normally imported and recent export demand in Caribbean and Central American countries seeking new sources for imports of cotton goods. Some proposals have been made that rayon plants (mostly weaving mills), now inactive for lack of raw material, be

converted to produce cotton goods. Unless this proposal is carried out or additional equipment is obtained (from abroad) to expand existing cotton mills, it appears that the 400,000 bales mentioned above represent maximum mill capacity under present conditions.

MEXICO: Area, production, trade, and consumption of cotton,
1941-42 with comparisons
(In bales of 478 pounds net)

Year beginning August 1	Area	Production	Imports <u>a/</u>	Exports	Mill consumption <u>b/</u>
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>
1935	657,439	314,807	392	199,548	<u>c/</u>
1936	847,471	397,233	1,342	137,463	249,897
1937	830,234	340,794	1,543	62,625	250,732
1938	641,921	306,677	1,499	61,542	243,235
1939	648,163	311,988	3,307	26,493	256,120
1940	626,786	302,070	772	35,558	262,500
1941 <u>d/</u> ...	781,664	371,457	1,078	<u>e/</u> 24,707	350,000
1942 <u>d/</u> ...	-	435,985	-	-	-

Compiled from official sources. a/ Year beginning January 1. b/ Year beginning July 1. c/ Not available. d/ Preliminary. e/ August-April.

Exports of cotton cloth and made-up articles increased sharply from 17.8 short tons in 1940 to 450.3 in 1941 and amounted to 1,532.8 tons for the first 4 months of 1942. Exports of cotton yarn and thread also increased from 83.3 tons in 1940 (previous 5-year average, 1.9 tons) to 223.2 in 1941 and 176.7 tons for January-April, 1942, Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and El Salvador were the principal destinations for Mexico's export trade in the above items. Heavier demand from these countries for Mexican goods may be expected as long as former sources in Japan are cut off and textile mills in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain are preoccupied with orders for military goods. The principal export items are "nanta," a strong unbleached cotton cloth, various printed materials, and a number of low-quality items for which there is little demand on foreign markets when supplies of other materials are plentiful.

Rapid expansion of Mexico's cotton mill industry in recent years has gradually reduced the surplus problem, although production has also gained. Mill consumption was equivalent to about 63 percent of the domestic crop in 1936-37, and the proportion has steadily increased to an estimated 94 percent for the 1941-42 year. Cotton stocks in Mexico, estimated at 80,000 bales on July 1, 1942, were sufficient for less than 3 months' mill requirements. Exports during 1941 and 1942 were destined almost entirely for the United States (under a quota restriction of about 18,600 bales for each year, beginning September 20, since 1939).

CUBAN HENEQUEN PRODUCTION
ABOVE LAST YEAR . . .

Maximum production of henequen in Cuba for 1942 has been estimated at 31 million pounds (or 13,839 long tons of 2,240 pounds) compared with 26.5 and 35 million pounds (11,830 and 15,625 long tons), respectively, in 1941 and 1940. Cuba consumes approximately 40 percent of the production for rope and cordage used in the domestic market and also for the manufacture of binder twine for export.

There were 1 million pounds of henequen on hand at the beginning of the year, and, if allowance is made for domestic commitments, a total of some 15 million pounds (6,696 long tons) of the present crop will be available for export to the United States. In addition, sales have been made to American concerns for the entire production of binder twine, amounting to 5 or 6 million pounds.

Although the fiber in Cuba is henequen (*agave fourcroydes*), it is spoken of as either henequen or sisal, and the official export statistics show exports for both henequen and sisal. When comparing exports with production, it is necessary to combine the two export figures. A table combining these export figures, by country of destination, from 1936 to 1940 appeared in Foreign Crops and Markets, December 15, 1941.

On July 3, 1942, a decree of the Ministry of Commerce was published making henequen fiber subject to export control. A special permit has to be obtained from the Ministry of Commerce to export or reexport henequen. The Ministry of Commerce in issuing these permits acts on the advice of the Cuban Import and Export Agency.

Several months ago, before this decree was announced, the Defense Supplies Corporation made arrangements to purchase the surplus production after normal Cuban requirements had been satisfied. It is not considered probable that the Cuban Government will interfere with shipments to the Defense Supplies Corporation.

PRODUCTION OF FLAX FIBER IN EGYPT
EXCEEDS EARLIER ESTIMATE . . .

The Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture places the 1941-42 crop of flax fiber harvested last spring at 90,602 long tons (of 2,240 pounds) compared with the earlier estimate of 84,000 tons and the final estimate of 53,990 tons the previous year. The acreage planted is estimated at 53,535 compared with 32,518 acres in 1940-41. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, April 13, 1942.)

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L I V E S T O C K A N D A N I M A L P R O D U C T SOUTLOOK FAVORABLE FOR HOG INDUSTRY
IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL . . .

The outlook for the hog industry in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, is favorable because of the high level of foreign and domestic demand. According to a trade estimate, slaughter during 1942 may show an increase of 20 percent over 1940, assuming that hogs are available and the demand is active. Current prices of pork products are far above pre-war prices. Hogs sold in June and July of 1942 at packing houses realized from 7.2 to 7.4 cents per pound, live weight. This price is nearly twice as high as pre-war prices.

Packers, however, are finding difficulty obtaining sufficient hogs. During May and June of 1941, Rio Grande do Sul experienced several floods. The effects of these floods are still felt on the hog market in the form of reduced hog deliveries. One of the largest packers in the State reported that in the regions near the Cany and Taquary rivers, where is firm buys most of its hogs, supplies were cut approximately in half. According to official figures, there were 4,109,700 hogs in 1939 and 3,194,200 in 1940. There are no figures for 1941.

While no slaughter statistics are available for 1941, it may be assumed that they would be below those for 1940. The following statistics are based on official figures where possible, and on estimates of the larger packing plants when no official figures are available. These slaughter figures may be regarded as being somewhat below the actual slaughter.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Number of hogs slaughtered, 1937-1940

Year	Public slaughter houses and butcher shops	Private establishments	Packing houses	Total slaughter
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
1937	38,290	438,680	504,536	981,506
1938	39,640	375,650	677,171	1,092,461
1939	45,998	300,000	910,130	1,256,128
1940	36,050	250,000	733,252	1,019,302

Departamento Estadual de Estatística.

The following official figures for 1940 pork production represent the only figures available for the State and are thought to be low in relation to actual production. Many small establishments probably make no reports or else make incomplete ones, as such reports may represent a basis for tax returns. Total lard production is estimated by packers at from 73 to 88 million pounds in place of the official figure of 55 million pounds.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Pork Production, 1940

Product	Production	Product	Production	Product	Production
	1,000 Pounds		1,000 pounds		1,000 pounds
Lard.....	55,172	Smoked pork	465	Powdered	
Bacon.....	4,925	Salted pork	5,538	meat....	1,766
Hams.....	2,099	Frozen pork	4,676	Salame....	3,481
Belly.....	4,142	Fresh pork.	4,396	Others....	8,718
Smoked ribs	818	Sausages...	5,176	Total...	101,372

Departamento Estadual de Estatística.

Pork products from Rio Grande do Sul find their greatest market in Brazil. Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Pernambuco buy the largest amounts of the State's pork products. The foreign market is almost entirely confined to the United Kingdom, although the United States has recently begun to show some interest in pork products from Rio Grande do Sul. Germany was the heaviest buyer before the war, with Sweden and Norway also purchasing certain items. Products enjoying the greatest sales during the past few years are lard, canned meats, bacon, and frozen meat. At present, the scarcity of tin plate presents a serious problem in the canning of meats.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Exports of pork products, 1937-1941

Product	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<u>To foreign countries</u>					
Lard	503	4,057	17,417	472	-
Frozen pork	681	1,404	443	3,778	3,990
Salted pork	31	293	507	593	2
Hams	-	2	15	84	4
Sausages	86	66	73	44	27
Total	1,301	5,822	18,455	4,971	4,023
<u>To other States in Brazil</u>					
Lard	116,604	49,487	51,722	42,309	33,512
Ham	33	293	481	408	441
Bacon	3,342	3,441	5,145	4,821	4,762
Total	119,979	53,221	57,348	47,538	38,715
Total shipments	121,280	59,043	75,803	52,509	42,738

Departamento Estadual de Estatística.

The present high level of prices cannot be wholly attributed to the export demand. Prices in 1938 were below the economic cost of hog production. The result was that hog numbers decreased and prices subsequently reacted upward. Increased domestic demand and high corn prices were also effective in raising hog prices. The type of hog desired up until the past few years has been of the lard type, as lard was the principal product in

demand. Since establishment of several modern packing plants, however, with their equipment and capital making export shipments of meat possible, the demand has been turning more toward a bacon-type hog. As a result, hog producers, with the assistance of the Government and packing plants, are attempting this conversion. Premiums paid by packing plants for bacon-type hogs provide the necessary impetus for this change. The demand for lard has been endangered by the increasing production and consumption of cottonseed oil.

SPANISH LIVESTOCK NUMBERS REDUCED . . .

The trend in numbers of most classes of livestock in Spain was upward after the close of the Spanish civil war in March, 1939, according to information received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. In the case of sheep, goats, and hogs, especially, numbers increased sharply to reach a peak in December 1940. Since then, heavier than usual slaughterings have resulted from the reduced supplies of fodder, and the undernourished condition of breeding stock has caused losses of young animals.

SPAIN: Numbers of livestock, 1933, 1934,
1939-1941

Description	May 1933 census	December 31			
		1934	1939 a/	1940 a/	1941 a/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Cattle, total . . .	3,569	4,215	3,234	3,898	3,900
Over 1 year . . .	b/ 2,605	c/	c/	2,846	2,846
Hogs, total	5,412	5,141	4,944	5,612	5,000
Over 1 year . . .	b/ 2,939	c/	c/	2,382	2,122
Sheep, total	19,093	17,326	17,912	24,237	23,000
Over 1 year . . .	b/ 14,080	c/	c/	15,630	14,832
Goats, total	4,575	4,696	5,385	6,249	6,000
Over 1 year . . .	3,339	c/	c/	3,807	3,655
Horses, total . . .	568	808	530	592	590
Over 1 year . . .	c/	c/	c/	539	537
Mules, total	1,191	1,479	-	1,139	1,120
Over 1 year . . .	c/	c/	c/	1,071	1,053
Asses, total	999	1,175	-	851	840
Over 1 year . . .	c/	c/	c/	780	769

Compiled from Tres estudios economicas apendice Anuario Estadistico and Anuario Estadistico de Espana. Latest estimates contained in cabled report. a/ Official estimates - number over 1 year unofficial estimates. b/ Adult animals; excludes calves, young pigs, lambs, and kids. The classifications over 1 year may not apply strictly, as no age classification was made other than that indicated. c/ Unavailable.

It seems probable that the statistics given in the above table are not strictly comparable, owing to the lapse of time between 1934 and 1939

when no official estimates were available. The number of livestock at the end of 1941, with the exception of cattle, was as large or larger than before the Spanish civil war, and notwithstanding some reduction in 1941, was materially larger than in 1939. Cattle had reached 3,900,000 by the end of 1941 and exceeded the number in 1939 by 21 percent, but was still 7 percent smaller than in 1934. Hog numbers reached the highest level since the civil war in 1940 when the number was reported at 5,612,000 head, or 14 percent above 1939 and also 9 percent larger than in 1934. There was a decrease in hog numbers in 1941, however, of 11 percent to 5,000,000 head. Sheep and goat numbers at the end of 1941 reached 23 million and 6 million head, respectively, and showed material increase above both 1939 and 1934 but decreases of 5 percent each as compared with 1940.

Horses have decreased materially since pre-civil-war days and, at the end of 1941, were 27 percent less than in 1934. There has been an increase, however, since 1939. The numbers of mules and asses both decreased in 1941 and are smaller than in 1934. The number of mules reported in 1941 was only 1,120,000 against 1,479,000 in 1934. The Ministry of Agriculture states that the number of horses in urban areas is in excess of that which can be fed from available fodder supplies, while the number of farm mules falls at least 60,000 below actual needs. This shortage is being aggravated by the fact that the mortality rate is exceeding the birth rate, while farm mules cannot be imported.

SCARCITY OF FEEDS AFFECTS SWISS CATTLE INDUSTRY . . .

Diminishing stocks and smaller food imports are resulting in an acute cattle-feeding situation in Switzerland. It was necessary to reduce meat consumption by rationing and by establishing slaughtering quotas in order to adjust the demand to current production. The burden of increased agricultural production now falls chiefly on meadow land, which also has diminished in proportion to the increase in the area under cultivation. The production of auxiliary field crops, silage, artificially dried grass, and fall crops sufficed to offset only a small part of the decline in feed imports.

Cattle slaughtering in 1941 exceeded the already high level reached in 1940. This assured, although at the expense of cattle stocks, a relatively ample supply of meat up to the end of 1941. These heavy slaughtering together with the shortage of feedstuffs caused a reduction of 5.8 percent in cattle from 1,584,100 to 1,492,500 head. The latter figure is 38,000 less than the 1918 figure, while the present human population of Switzerland exceeds that of 1918 by 400,00. According to the livestock census of April 1942, the number of calves increased by 8.5 percent, indicating that cattle breeding is now increasing. It will be some time, however, before there will be a sufficient number of cattle to make up the reduction caused by the war.

The monthly meat ration, which had been 1,000 grams was reduced to 750 grams on July 1, 1942, but the sale of meat and meat products of all kinds, including canned and preserved meat, was forbidden in July. During the period July 3-20, 1942, the slaughter of cattle, hogs, horses, sheep, and goats was prohibited by a decree issued by the War Food Office.

MILK PRICES FIXED IN CUBA . . .

In a resolution effective July 1, 1942, the Office of Price Regulation and Supply of Cuba fixed prices for the sale of milk in the cities of Habana, Marianao, Regla, and Guanabacoa. This resolution superseded the provisions of a decree dated August 27, 1941, which established one set of prices for the period January-April, another for May-September and a third for the period October-December of each year. This new measure was taken because the low prices received by dairymen did not permit them to continue profitable operations. The minimum price per quart of milk sold by dairymen and intended for public consumption was fixed at 5 cents and was similar to that price stipulated for October-December. Raw milk delivered to consumers' residences continued to be sold at the prices that were in effect prior to May of this year. The price of the standard-sized bottle of milk sold to the general public was fixed at 9 cents. Lastly, the resolution fixed the price of milk to be used in the manufacture of other dairy products at 4 cents a quart.

PERUVIAN IMPORTS OF CATTLE HIDES TEMPORARILY EXEMPTED FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES AND CONSULAR FEES . . .

As a result of the scarcity of cattle hides in Peru, the Ministry of Treasury, in a resolution dated June 30, 1942, exempted imports of dry- and wet-salted cattle hides from the regular import duty and consular fees, provided that they are brought in directly by the tanneries to meet their own requirements. Previously, exports of domestic cattle hides had been prohibited. This exemption will be in effect until the shortage disappears, but the Government may reinstate the duties and fees concerned should the prices of the articles manufactured from imported cattle hides be exorbitantly increased. The tanneries must obtain in each case a special permit for such imports from the Ministry of Treasury. The regular import duty on dry- and wet-salted cattle hides was 2.1 cents a pound. The consular fee was 6 percent ad valorem. Imports were negligible in 1939 but increased to 70,399 pounds in 1940, nearly all of which came from Chile. Chile also furnished the bulk of 1941 imports of 3,644 pounds, while imports during the first 4 months of 1942 amounted to 5,503 pounds.

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